

Of the many varieties we have tried, there is one that stands out pre-eminently as the most successful, for the reason (1) that it is thoroughly hardy, having withstood temperatures of 66 to 70 degrees below zero, and (2) it produces seed at our Rampart Station, in latitude $65^{\circ} 30'$, which is an equally important point, inasmuch as we should be unable to propagate it in a practical way, unless we could raise the seed. I have looked up the source of this hardy variety. It was transmitted to me by you in your letter of May 13, 1910. The S. P. I. number is No. 24452, but *Medicago falcata* is the most valuable plant for Alaska that has ever been introduced from any source. It grows freely, the leaves are small but thick on the stem, the stems are in most plants procumbent and they will grow from two to four feet in length. They bloom early and seed freely. The blossoms continue to come until frost. It has one fault: The ripe pods split open very readily and shatter the seed in the process of handling. To save the seed, which I regard as very precious, we, therefore, pick it by hand to a large extent. We have hybrids between this species and *M. sativa*, variety Grimm, which promise to be of still greater value. The Grimm has a spiral pod; *falcata* has a nearly straight pod. Some of the hybrids have curved, or even spiral pods which do not split open readily and the seed does, therefore, not shatter in handling. I find that there is very great variation between individual plants as to habit of growth, size, abundance of leaves, seed production, etc., and in order to select the best types and eventually propagate from them only, we grow these valuable alfalfas as individual plants in rows two by three feet apart. This enables us to study individuals and select seed from those that possess the most valuable qualities. This process will be continued for a few years longer until an upright, vigorous, leafy, seed-bearing strain has been isolated. Altogether we have now some three acres at the Rampart Station, in these alfalfas, two acres of which were seeded last spring. *Medicago falcata* will be of untold value to interior Alaska. The problem now is to produce enough seed so that before long we can begin to distribute it in minute quantities to farmers who will appreciate its value. A word concerning Grimm: It is an excellent variety, and some years it does well, withstanding two or three winters, but each spring we find that a number of plants have winter killed, and